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positions on the sides of the segments, as determined by the position of homodynamous muscles, and that the hind wings are derived without much doubt from the degenerate spiracle disc of the metathorax": and adds, "All the evidence here presented concerning the wings of Coleoptera and Heterometabola is most positively opposed to the theory of the origin of the wings of insects as dorsal backward prolongations of the tergum."

There is little new ground broken in this paper, but there is much more careful tillage of a hitherto indifferently cultivated field.

J. G. N.

BOTANY.

A New Flora of the Southeastern United States.¹—A new handbook of the flora of this region has long been a desideratum, the data concerning the southern states being confined to antiquated books, the latest of which, Chapman's *Flora*, is a decade old, and to scattered descriptions, collector's notes, and isolated specimens, chiefly in the larger herbaria,—apart from one of which they could hardly have been brought together satisfactorily. Dr. Small, who is curator of the museums and herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden, and who has personally made extensive trips over a considerable part of the territory covered by the new Flora, consulting Elliott's herbarium at Charleston and the original Chapman herbarium at the New York Garden, is in an unequaled position to undertake the preparation of such a handbook, and though his own experience in the several years during which it has been going through the press shows the rapidity with which such works call for change when once launched, he has succeeded in placing before the public a manual which, if of awkward form and size for field use, is indispensable to every herbarium and botanical library in which the North American flora receives attention.

¹ Small, J. K., *Flora of the Southeastern United States being descriptions of the Seed-plants, ferns, and fern-allies growing naturally in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and the Indian Territory and in Oklahoma and Texas east of the One hundredth meridian*. New York, published by the author, 1903. 8vo, xii + 1370 pp.

In all respects the treatment of the subject is modern. The phylogenetic arrangement of Engler and Prantl is essentially adopted; the Neo-American practice in nomenclature is followed as consistently as it is likely to be followed,—familiar generic names being added as synonyms when discarded under this practice; and genera and species have been subjected to the prevalent minute segregation. Opinions may and do differ greatly as to the desirability of some of these practices, and in the last-named respect Dr. Small is scarcely surpassed by any living botanist on this side of the ocean: but by what appear to be well-made keys and terse contrasted descriptions he makes reasonably clear his idea of the species that he names,—6364 in number, grouped under 1494 genera, pertaining to 236 families, of 62 orders.

T.

Notes.—An unusually satisfactory series of plates showing autumnal coloration of foliage is contained in a paper on “Tree planting on Streets and Highways,” by W. F. Fox, published at Albany, by the Forest, Fish and Game Commission of New York.

A capital treatise on woody plants in winter, illustrated by numerous habit, bark and detail figures, by Schneider, has been issued from the press of Gustav Fischer, Jena, under the title *Dendrologische Winterstudien*.

An account of the characteristics of some southern trees, by Emma G. Cummings, is contained in Part I of the *Transactions of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society* for 1903.

“A Primer of Forestry,” by Pinchot, is published as *Farmers' Bulletin* No. 173 of the *Department of Agriculture*.

The value of oak leaves for forage is discussed by Mackie in *Bulletin* No. 150 of the *Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of California*.

A series of practical little Bulletins, somewhat comparable with those issued by the Experiment Stations in this country, is being distributed by the Biologische Abtheilung für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, of the *Kaiserliches Gesundheitsamt*, of Berlin, under the title “Flüglblätter.”

The forage conditions and problems of Eastern Washington, Eastern Oregon, Northeastern California and Northwestern Nevada are